

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] More specifically, the message 201 can include a "To:" portion 207, a router list portion 210, and a content portion 212. The "To:" field 207 can refer to a specific "ultimate destination identifier" for a recipient computer system (e.g., "Receiving Computer System" [[230]] 260), or could be a virtual name (e.g. an email alias, a domain name) for any number of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses, Uniform Resource Locators (URL), Global Unique Identifiers (GUID), and so forth. In similar fashion, the router list portion 210 can include a list of preferred router names or addresses, if the user is inclined to enter router preferences through an interface (not shown), and can include the "ultimate destination identifier" (e.g, "A", "B", and "Ultimate ID"). The content portion 212 (e.g., "1", "2", and "3") can be any type of identifiable data such as a text message between two users, or as complex as a remote request to perform discrete mathematical operations on one or more data sets.

Please replace paragraph [0051] with the following amended paragraph:

[0051] Figure 4 illustrates a second flowchart of the present invention from the client (or message creation) perspective. The illustrated method comprises an act 400 of identifying the recipient. Act 400 includes identifying the receiving computer system, and one or more preferred routers by which the message is intended to be relayed to the receiving computer system. For example, a user at (or an application program installed on) the "Sending Computer System" [[100]] 200 can (e.g., "TO:" 207, or "Ultimate ID" in router list 210). The method further comprises an act 410 of creating the message. Act 410 includes creating the message, the message including an identifier representing the receiving computer system, message content, and a message router list, the message router list including the one or more preferred routers. For example, the user at the sending computer system 200 can generate a message 201 that includes an indication of an ultimate destination 207, 210, a list of preferred routers 210, and content 212 to be sent.

Please replace paragraph [0053] with the following amended paragraph:

[0053] Act 430 includes modifying the message router list based on router data contained within the cached router list, wherein a router from the cached router list is added to the message router list or a router is ~~[[a]]~~ deleted from the message router list. For example, the comparison module 215 at the sending computer system 200 can rely on routing rules (previously described) in the referral cache 217, and/or in content logic 220 to change the routing list 210 in the original message 201. Accordingly, the comparison module can modify, for example, routing list 210 to be 211, by adding or deleting a router from the routing list if appropriate.